



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ACTION MEMORANDUM

S/S

December 22, 1977

TO: The Secretary
FROM: HA - Patricia M. Derian

Appointment with Martin Ennals
Amnesty International

ISSUE FOR DECISION

Whether to meet with Martin Ennals, Secretary General of Amnesty International during his two-day visit to the United States, January 17-18, preferably January 17.

ESSENTIAL FACTORS

Martin Ennals has been Secretary General of Amnesty International since 1968. Previously he was the head of the National Council on Civil Liberties (Britain's ACLU) and worked for 10 years for UNESCO. It has been during his period at Amnesty that the organization both has expanded its membership in the United States (now 104 affiliated local groups and a membership of some 40,000) and around the world (2,000 affiliated groups in 35 countries). His direction has not been an unimportant part of the increased visibility which Amnesty International has received, including its recent receipt of the Nobel Peace Prize.

Ennals will be meeting with Senators and Congressmen on January 18. In addition to your meeting, we would hope to have him address Open Forum and meet privately with the various Assistant Secretaries. The Deputy Secretary also has agreed to meet with him.

During his visit here, Amnesty will be releasing a report on South Africa human rights conditions.

Recommendation:

That you agree to meet with him.

Approve _____ Disapprove _____

HA/HR:MLSchneider:di
12/22/77:ext. 21181